

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-07 SP-02 SS-14 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 MC-02 L-02 ACDA-10 AID-05 IGA-01 OMB-01

EB-03 COME-00 EUR-10 /078 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:PDMOLINEAUX-DOD/ISA:GSICK

APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER

PM/SAS:DFARNHAM

----- 025949

R 0,1529Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

CSA WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 220341

SECDEF FOR DSAA AND ISA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS MARR MU

SUBJECT: OMANI ARMS REQUESTS

REF: (A) KUWAIT 4163, (B) KUWAIT 4208, (C) STATE 192424,
(D) KUWAIT 0807, (E) STATE 052547

KUWAIT PASS MUSCAT

1. MR NAGLE MADE COURTESY CALL DOD SEPT 17. HE REQUESTED
INFORMATION REGARDING OMANI INTEREST IN TOW, CLAYMORE MINES
AND M-79 GRENADE LAUNCHERS. DOD RESPONSE DREW ON RECENT
MESSAGE TRAFFIC AS FOLLOWS.

2. RELATIVE TO TOW, MR. NAGLE WAS ALREADY AWARE OF DIFFI-
CULTY USG WOULD HAVE IN SUPPLYING THIS ITEM, SINCE EARLY
DELIVERY WOULD INVOLVE DIVERSION FROM U.S. ARMY STOCKS. HE
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WAS ASSURED THAT USG NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO OMANI REQUEST

FOR TOW WAS BASED ON A VERY COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE MATTER. NAGLE WAS AWARE OF USG INQUIRY RE TOW TO GERMANY ON OMAN'S BEHALF, BUT HE DID NOT HOLD OUT MUCH HOPE FOR OBTAINING TOW VIA THAT CHANNEL.

3. WITH RESPECT TO CLAYMORE MINES, NAGLE WAS INFORMED THAT PRICE AND AVAILABILITY DATA WAS FORWARDED TO OMAN SOME TIME AGO BUT THAT LETTER OF OFFER WAS NEVER REQUESTED, AS INDICATED PARA 1, REF C. FOR EMBASSY MUSCAT: REQUEST

YOU CONFIRM THAT GOO CONTINUES TO WANT 5000 CLAYMORE MINES AS ORIGINALLY INDICATED IN REF D. UPON RECEIPT OF CONFIRMATION, DOD WILL PREPARE AND FORWARD LETTER OF OFFER. CONFUSION ON THIS ITEM MAY BE RESULT OF MISUNDERSTANDING OF FMS PROCEDURES. SEQUENCE GENERALLY INVOLVES: (1) INITIAL INQUIRY FROM HOST GOVERNMENT (IN ADDITION TO GENERAL INQUIRY FOR DATA, THIS MAY INVOLVE REQUEST FOR PRICE AND AVAILABILITY DATA); (2) SUBMISSION OF PRICE AND AVAILABILITY DATA BY DOD; (3) FORMAL REQUEST BY HOST GOVERNMENT; (4) LETTER OF OFFER (CONTRACT) PREPARED BY DOD (INITIAL REQUEST (ITEM 1) COULD BE A DIRECT REQUEST FOR LETTER OF OFFER); AND (5) HOST GOVERNMENT SIGNATURE ON L/O, AT WHICH POINT SUPPLY ACTION CAN BE INITIATED.

4. WITH RESPECT TO M-79 GRENADE LAUNCHERS, MR. NAGLE WAS ADVISED THAT USG HAD INFORMED OMAN ON 31 AUGUST (REF C) THAT THIS ITEM IS NOT AVAILABLE FROM RESERVE STOCK AND IS NO LONGER MANUFACTURED IN THE U.S. (FYI. IN ADDITION TO REF C, DETAILS RELATIVE TO THIS REQUEST WERE POUCHED TO MUSCAT ON 23 AUG 73 REPEAT 73. END FYI.) AN ALTERNATIVE POSSIBILITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF OMAN WOULD BE THE XM-203 GRENADE LAUNCHER, WHICH IS CURRENTLY IN THE U.S. INVENTORY; HOWEVER, THIS MODEL IS DESIGNED TO BE USED ONLY WITH THE M-16 RIFLE.

5. THERE IS ONLY ONE FMS CASE CURRENTLY ACTIVE FOR OMAN. THIS COVERS 2000 FIRING DEVICES FOR DEMOLITION WORK. DA LETTER OF OFFER COVERING THIS CASE WAS POUCHED TO OMAN 23 AUG 74. REQUEST ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT AND CURRENT STATUS.

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6. ABOVE PROVIDED BY DOD.

7. NAGLE ALSO CALLED ON STATE DEPT. BROAD DISCUSSION WAS CONSISTENT WITH ABOVE.

8. GENERAL USG APPROACH TO ARMS SALES IS TO PREFER COMMERCIAL RATHER THAN GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CHANNEL. THIS HOWEVER CONTINGENT ON EFFECTIVENESS COMMERCIAL CHANNEL AT

FOREIGN GOVERNMENT END. SUGGEST THIS BE MADE CLEAR TO
OMANI OFFICIALS. ALSO SUGGEST YOU ADVISE OMANIS THAT, IF
WISH USE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CHANNEL, REQUESTS MUST
BE MADE THROUGH U.S. EMBASSY. KISSINGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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